



Timberbank Times

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Principal's Message

Dear Timberbank Parents/Guardians,

The last month and half have been cold outside and very snowy, but that has not stopped our Timberbank staff and students from turning up the heat. Whether it was our boys' basketball team or girls' volleyball team, our In-School Speech Arts Competition or our Grade 6s visiting Camp Kearney, we have been very busy working hard academically and of course, having some fun at the same time.

Our Term 1 Report Cards went home mid-February and it was great to see many of you at our Parent-Teacher Conferences. Thank you for helping us to build a strong partnership between school and home. It is wonderful to have us working together so that our students continue to achieve their best.

We also celebrated a very successful Literacy Week where we had our first "Book Swap" and it ended with our "Favourite Character" Spirit Day! We hope that many students had a chance to bring in an "old" favourite book and get a "new" one for the March Break. Remember how important it is to read every day!

The March Break is fast approaching and Spring is just around the corner. We hope that you enjoy the Break and take the time to enjoy family and friends.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Anna Epitropou



Upcoming Dates

Mar 11	Talent Show at 1 pm
Mar 12-20	MARCH BREAK - no school
Mar 17	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 21	School Begins & Creepy Crawlies Presentation
Mar 28	Area Speech Arts Competition @ Terry Fox PS - AM
Mar 31	ON T.R.A.C.K. Assembly - 9:00 am - "Commitment & Cooperation"
April 4	ON T.R.A.C.K. treat with Mrs. Epitropou at lunch
April 4	TDSB Newcomer Kids program begins at lunch
April 7	Pizza Lunch
April 7	School Council Meeting in the library @ 6:30 pm
April 11	Grades 4 to 6 students visit TSO - "Back to the Future"
April 11	Internet Safety - Parent Workshop @ 7pm

Presentations

On February 14th, we were fortunate to have Q-Mack and JB (Jack in the Beat Box) visit Timberbank for a special Character Education assembly. For nearly two hours, the two presenters entertained our students along with the students from Highland Heights and the grade 6s from Pauline Johnson. They had a great message to teach us...Believe in Yourself; Always Try Your Best; and Never Give Up.



In return, we were invited by Highland Heights to see the special Prologue presentation, "Maori, the People of the Pacific" on March 7th. All of our grade 1 to 6 students walked over to Highland Heights and had the unique opportunity to learn about the Maori and the different customs, songs and dances from the islands in the Pacific. We were very thankful for the invitation!

Speech Arts Competition

On February 24th, eleven brave students stood before the grade 3 to 6 students and spoke passionately about a topic of their choice.



Congratulations to the following who represented their class at our School Competition: Matthew; William; Sendoran; Safiullah; Andrew; Praavean; Abi; Zaid; Isabel; Gayathiri; and Sowmija.



It was a tough competition and the judges had a hard time selecting the top 3 winners. Moving on to the Area Finals on March 28th are William with his speech on "Social Justice" and Sendoran with his speech on "The Flu". We want to wish them the best of luck and we are proud to have them represent Timberbank!

Literacy Week

From February 28th to March 4th, Timberbank staff and students celebrated Literacy Week to promote the love and joy of reading.

Every day on our morning announcements, students read selected poetry and we had a dedicated time for D.E.A.R. (drop everything and read). Our library became the site for our "Book Swap". Students brought in their "old" books and received a ticket



for a "new" one. Congratulations to Mr. O'Connor's class who won the cupcake party for bringing in the most books during the week. We ended the week with our "favourite character" parade and assembly. It was great to see Pocahontas, the Paperbag Princess, Dora the Explorer, Wimpy Kid, Scaredy Squirrel, the Cat in the Hat, Flat Stanley and even Thing 1 showed up in the afternoon (Thing 2 was sick at home).



Way to go Timberbank...Keep on Reading!

Camp Kearney

On Friday, February 25th, our grade 6s boarded a coach bus and traveled over 350 km to Camp Kearney for their outdoor education experience. What a wonderful opportunity for our grade 6s to go snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, learn about the environment and begin their aboriginal studies.

The grade 6 students were wonderful representatives of Timberbank as they listened to their teachers, did their chores and participated in the many exciting activities that were planned for them.

We hope that they all enjoyed themselves and had a chance to share their experiences with their family and friends. It will definitely be a trip that they will not forget.

Pottery Project

Mr. Mirshahi's class and Mrs. Lee-Davis' class have had the unique opportunity to work with Mr. Bedford and Mrs. Bedford on a special pottery project. The grade 2s experimented with different textures and designs while the grade 4s created medieval goblets and the grade 5s made ancient tablets related to their ancient civilizations studies.



We would like to thank them for taking the time to come back to Timberbank to work with our students. Thank You!

"100 DAY"

On February 11th, our primary classes celebrated the "100th" day at school. There are many special activities happening around the 100th day of school and our kindergarten classes did an amazing job celebrating. Take a look! I am sure you will agree...Wow, they can count to 100????



Kindergarten Registration Continues...



We have been registering for our Full-Day Kindergarten Program for September 2011. Please let families in the community know about our kindergarten registration. In order to register, you will need the following information about your child to register: 1) **Proof of Age** (birth certificate or passport); 2) **Proof of Address** (two pieces of identification that show your address; 3) **Immunization** (card that shows a list of needles your child has received; and 4) If your child was not born in Canada verification of date of arrival is required.

Gentle Reminders:

- When your child is absent or late, please give us a call to let us know at **416-396-6860** and **press 1 to leave a message**. For your convenience, the **Safe Arrival voice mailbox is available 24 hours each day**. All students arriving late or leaving early should sign in and/or out at the main office with a parent or designated caregiver. We appreciate your help in this matter.
- **Lates:** Please remember the importance of starting the day on the right foot! We have many students arriving late and we are asking your help to get them to school on time. Try setting your alarm clock 5 minutes earlier...it might just help! The students are asked to enter through their assigned door at the back of the school. There are student ambassadors on duty until the final entry bell to let students in.
- **Parking Lot Safety:** Please make sure that you park your car if you are dropping off your child. There is a walkway along the side where students are to make their way into the playground. It is very dangerous for children to walk between the parked cars. We ask for your cooperation in keeping our students safe.



READ & WRITE GOLD



Read and Write Gold is designed to provide literacy support for students of all ages and abilities. It supports a Universal Design of Learning Model and aids students in completing, reading, writing and research assignments. Read and Write Gold is now available to all schools in the TDSB. All students also have access to this software for home use (PC computers). To download and install 1 home installation of Read & Write, please enter the following URL in your web browser: <http://www.texthelp.com/toronto.asp>

Once the TDSB page is displayed, enter in your **Username: TDSB** and **Password: 4500677672** and follow the installation instructions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Epitropou at the school for clarification.

School Council News

The Timberbank School Council would like to invite you to an ***Internet Safety Parent Workshop*** on **Monday, April 11th** from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Timberbank Library. There will be a presenter from the "Parent Education Network" speaking to interested parents/guardians.

Workshop focus:

- *What the most important things parents can do to safeguard our kids?*
- *How can we help them learn to protect themselves?*
- *Topics covered include Benefits of the Internet; Links to Public Safety Site; Safety in Cyberspace; Rules and Guidelines for Safe Internet Use; Online Safety Rules; Net-lingo - acronyms every parent should know; Parents concerns and issues; and Dangers."*

Don't forget to save the date...We hope to see you there!



On behalf of the Timberbank Staff....



*Have a fabulous
March Break!*



See you on Monday, March 21st, 2011